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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: S-16

On 5-7-07
By Angela Loding
Angela Loding

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent of: David C. Hovda

Application No.: 10/735,477

Filing Date: December 11, 2003

For: **METHODS FOR VISUALIZING AND
TREATING INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS**

)
) Examiner: Alex B. Toy

)
) Art Unit: 3739

)
) Confirmation No.: 2479

)
) **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE**
) **STATEMENT UNDER**
) **37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98**
)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the references that are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.

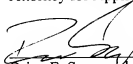
It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue there from.

These citations do not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims.

This IDS is being filed after a Non-Final Office Action and accordingly, Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner is to charge \$180 and any additional fees necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0359 of ArthroCare Corporation in order to effectuate this filing.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicant's attorney at 512.391.3961.

Respectfully submitted
Attorney for Applicant,


Brian E. Szymczak
Reg. No. 47,120

5/7/2007
Date

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

ARTHROCARE CORPORATION

CUSTOMER NO. **21394**

512.391.3961

512.391.3901 (fax)

PTO-1449				Application No. 10/735,477		Applicant(s) David C. Hovda	
Information Disclosure Citation in an Application				Docket Number S-16		Group Art Unit 3739	Filing Date December 11, 2003
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A.	6146380	11/14/2000	Racz et al.	606	41	1/9/1998
	B.	6176857	1/23/2001	Ashley	606	32	9/22/1998
	C.	6679886	1/20/2004	Weikel et al.	606	79	8/28/2001
	D.						
	E.						
	F.						
	G.						
	H.						
	I.						
	L.						
	P.						
	L.						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	M.						
	L.						
	O.						
	P.						
	O.						
NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)					DATE
	R.						
	S.						
	T.						
	U.						
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.							